



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP 25 2007

THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Governor of Texas  
Post Office Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

Thank you for your letter of August 14, 2007, requesting increased funding to support the U.S.-Mexico Border program.

The U.S.-Mexico Border program reflects EPA's principal effort to provide drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects to impacted communities. We recognize the importance of this program and that its successes have been instrumental in improving the quality of life in U.S. communities in the border region. Furthermore, we are continually seeking ways to improve the program. For example, we recently developed reforms to optimize project completion rates, enhance program oversight, and improve fiscal management practices. Through this work, EPA will ensure steady progress in providing access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation.

I appreciate and recognize your concern for the U.S.-Mexico Border program. As we continue to develop EPA's FY 2009 budget, your request will receive full consideration in the context of the Administration's priorities and EPA's ongoing efforts to improve the program.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your representative may call Mayor Randy Kelly, in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, at 202-564-3126.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. L. Johnson", is written over the typed name.

Stephen L. Johnson